

Message Text

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43

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, GW

SUBJECT: US/FRG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ON
HIGH-SPEED GROUND TRANSPORT (HSGT) SYSTEMS

REF: STATE 169386

1. WE HAVE HAD AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH KAPPEL REGARDING THE STAFFING PROBLEMS FORESEEN BY DOT ARISING FROM THE DESIGNATION OF TWO GERMAN COORDINATORS FROM DIFFERENT MINISTRIES. HE TOLD US THAT THE DOT SHOULD CONSIDER DR. FRENZEL AS THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SUBJECT MOU. WHEN BROADER QUESTIONS OF FRG TRANSPORT POLICY WERE CONCERNED, KAPPEL EXPLAINED, HE WOULD PLAY AN ADVISORY ROLE IN COORDINATING A FINAL GERMAN POSITION BEFORE MATTERS UNDER THE MOU WERE RAISED WITH THE US COORDINATOR BY DR. FRENZEL.

2. KAPPEL'S EXPLANATION APPEARS TO USE TO REFLECT A MODUS OPERANDI WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE EARLIER BUREAUCRATIC SENSITIVITIES BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN MINISTRIES INVOLVED IN THE HSGT PROGRAM. WE ASSUME, THEREFORE, THAT THE ARRANGEMENT OUTLINED ABOVE WILL RUN SMOOTHLY AND THAT KAPPEL WILL NOT SEEK DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE US COORDINATOR ON QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE HSGT MOU.

HILLENBRAND

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